

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

30. (Currently Amended) A protective coating comprising a pigment and a binder, the binder comprising a vinyl polymer based on one or more monomers selected from the group consisting of methyl metacrylate, butyl acrylate, 2-ethylhexyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, styrene, methacrylic acid, and acrylic acid, having a weight-average molecular weight of 10,000 – 100,000 and an acid value of 40 – 250, wherein the binder has a polydispersity of 2-6 and a glass transition temperature of 10 to 60 °C, and wherein the coating is on a substantially transparent surface and the coating is removable with a removing agent comprising a base and a complex former.

31. (Previously presented) The protective coating according to claim 30, wherein the binder has a weight-average molecular weight of 15,000 to 75,000.

32. (Previously presented) The protective coating according to claim 31, wherein the binder has a weight-average molecular weight of 20,000 to 50,000.

33. (Previously presented) The protective coating according to claim 30, wherein the acid value of the binder is between 60 and 160.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently amended) The protective coating according to claim ~~35~~30, wherein the glass transition temperature of the binder is between 20 and 50°C.

37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously presented) The protective coating according to claim 30, wherein the binder is present in an amount of 4-60% by weight, based on the weight of the protective coating.

40. (Previously presented) The protective coating according to claim 30, wherein the pigment is selected from the group of calcium carbonate, titanium oxide, a silicate, gypsum, barite, and combinations thereof.

41. (Previously presented) The protective coating according to claim 30, wherein the pigment is present in an amount of 30-95% by weight, based on the weight of the protective coating.

42. (Previously presented) The protective coating according to claim 30, wherein the protective coating further comprises an adhesion promoter.

43. (Previously presented) The protective coating according to claim 42, wherein the adhesion promoter is selected from the group of silanes.

44. (Previously presented) The protective coating according to claim 30, wherein the protective coating further comprises a pigment divider.

45. (Previously presented) The protective coating according to claim 30, wherein the protective coating further comprises a thickener.

46. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a protective coating on a substantially transparent surface comprising applying a composition to the substantially transparent surface and then drying the composition to form the protective coating, wherein the composition comprises a pigment and a water-carried binder, the binder comprising a vinyl polymer based on one or more monomers selected from the group consisting of methyl metacrylate, butyl acrylate, 2-ethylhexyl acrylate, ethyl acrylate, styrene, methacrylic acid, and acrylic acid, having a weight-

average molecular weight of 10,000 – 100,000 and an acid value of 40 – 250, wherein the binder has a polydispersity of 2-6 and a glass transition temperature of 10 to 60 °C, and wherein the protective coating is removable with a removing agent comprising a base and a complex former.

47. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 46, wherein the composition further comprises a weak base selected from the group of ammonia, mono-, di- and trialkylamines, with the alkyl group containing from 1 to 8 carbon atoms.

48. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 47, wherein the weak base is present in an amount of 0.2-5% by weight, based on the weight of the protective agent.

49. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 46, wherein the substantially transparent surface is an outside wall of a greenhouse.